

APPENDIX I



DIRK KEMPTHORNE
governor

Richard J. Collignon
director

Bill Dokken
deputy director

.....
**IDAHO PARK AND
RECREATION BOARD**
.....

Robert M. Haakenson
region one

Beverly L. Boyd
region two

Ernest J. Lombard
region three

Glenn E. Shewmaker, PhD
region four

Jean S. McDevitt
region five

Douglas A. Hancey
region six

.....
**IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF
PARKS AND RECREATION**
.....

p.o. box 83720
boise, idaho 83720-0065

(208) 334-4199

fax (208) 334-3741

tdd 1-800-377-3529

street address
5657 warm springs avenue

www.idahoparks.org

MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 1, 2002
TO: Park Board Members
FROM: Debra S. Sears, Administrative Assistant *Debra*
SUBJECT: Letter of Notification of ATV Trail Demo Project

Attached is the letter that went to those with a possible interest in the proposed ATV Trail in Idaho. The letter was mailed out late last week.

DSS

Enclosure



April 1, 2002

«FirstName» «LastName»
«JobTitle»
«Company»
«Address1»
«City», «State» «PostalCode»

bc: Board Members
Chuck Wells
Marty Gangis
Garth Taylor

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Dear «Salutation»:

In response to the current growth in the number of registered ATVs and the general lack of an acceptable body of knowledge concerning the management of ATV use in the State of Idaho, the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, under the direction of our Board, would like to bring together ATV enthusiasts, federal and state agencies, communities and interest groups to develop an ATV demonstration project in the Custer/Lemhi/Butte Counties that will include the communities of Challis, Mackay and Arco. The goal of the demonstration project is to develop an inventory of pertinent base line data to be used as a foundation for a scientific management study designed to develop and test management strategies implemented against the base line data.

Patterned after a case study of the Paiute ATV Trail in Utah, the proposed demonstration project, which will utilize only existing roadways and ATV trails could potentially create a 250+ mile trail system. This trail system could link together the rural communities of Challis, Mackay and Arco to serve as an Idaho model to develop, monitor and test potential management strategies for ATV use in the State of Idaho.

While still under a number of reviews, Utah's Paiute Trail, which includes more than 500 miles of designated ATV trail, provides us with a good case study to help us address similar ATV management challenges in Idaho. Utah has many similarities to Idaho in our public land opportunities and while this trail system has some issues that remain to be solved, the trail can provide us with some valuable insights as we begin the process of developing management strategies for the more than 33,000 registered ATV users in Idaho. The Utah trail system has had some success in providing a high quality ATV riding experience within reasonable limits and manageable impacts on existing roads, trails, natural resources and other public land user experiences. The trail has proven very popular with recreational ATV riders from across the nation and even more popular with local communities and business owners who benefit from the trail as a destination attraction.

The Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation is proposing to begin a public process designed to inform and gather input from the public on this demonstration project proposal. With the collaboration of other public land or natural resource management agencies, the proposal will form new partnerships with ATV, resource and conservation interest

«FirstName» «LastName»

March 25, 2002

Page 2

groups, Cities, Counties, Economic Development representatives and private landowners with an emphasis on the actual design of ATV management strategies, that can be tested against established base line data. It is the intent of IDPR, that this proposed demonstration project, follow the guidance provided by existing land management plans. Our preliminary research with the various land management agencies indicate that enough trails presently exist in this area to support a trail system but because of the vastness of the area and a lack of mapping and signing, it is difficult for the average person to utilize these outstanding trail opportunities.


We are informing you and/or your organization about this proposal in its beginning stages so that you will hopefully join us in helping to formulate the proposal by sharing your ideas or concerns.

I have attached for your review a summary of the proposal. We have scheduled several initial meetings, with the local cities and counties to make them aware of our proposal and to gauge their interest for developing this Demonstration Project in their area. Based on the response we have received we will be scheduling additional scoping meetings and hope that you will attend one if possible. Public notices will be made of the time and location for future meetings.

In the meantime if you would like additional information on the proposal or if you would like to be added to our mailing list for the project or possibly serve on the proposed Demonstration Project Workgroup please do not hesitate to contact Chuck Wells, our Statewide Outdoor Recreation Program Coordinator at: Idaho Dept. of Parks and Recreation, P.O. Box 83720, Boise, Idaho 83720.

With more than 33,000 registered ATVs in Idaho, it appears to me that we are behind the curve with the development of a statewide management strategy for these outdoor recreation enthusiasts. Our goal is to start the process by first developing a base of knowledge of how the management strategies developed impact our resources and other user interests on our public lands. We hope you support this approach and will join us in this planning effort.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Rick Collignon", followed by a long horizontal line.

Rick Collignon, Director
Idaho Dept. of Parks and Recreation

Enclosure

Proposed ATV Demonstration Project

Custer/ Lemhi/ Butte Counties

Idaho Dept. of Parks and Recreation

March 24, 2002

In response to the current growth in the number of registered ATVs and the general lack of an acceptable body of knowledge concerning the management of ATV use in the State of Idaho, the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation plans to bring together ATV enthusiasts, federal and state agencies, communities and interest groups to develop an ATV demonstration project in the Custer/ Lemhi/ Butte Counties that will include the communities of Challis, Mackay and Arco. The goal of the demonstration project is to develop an inventory of pertinent base line data to be used as foundation for a scientific management study designed to develop and test management strategies implemented against the base line data.

Patterned after a case study of the Paiute ATV Trail in Utah, the proposed demonstration project, which will utilize existing roadways and ATV trails could designate a 250+ mile trail linking together the rural communities of Challis, Mackay and Arco to serve as an Idaho model to develop, monitor and test potential management strategies for ATV use in the State of Idaho.

While still under a number of environmental reviews, Utah's Paiute Trail, which includes more than 500 miles of designated ATV trail, provides us with a good case study to help us address similar ATV management challenges in Idaho. Utah has many similarities to Idaho in our public land opportunities and while the trail has drawn some criticism from concerned resource groups, the trail can provide us with some valuable insights as we develop management strategies for ATV use in Idaho. The Utah trail system has proven very popular with recreational ATV riders from across the nation and even more popular with local communities and business owners who benefit from the trail as a destination attraction.

Paiute Trail Highlights

- Utah started their trail system with a core 250+ trail system utilizing existing roads and trails with four communities linked to the trail and built to eventually link 16 communities into the trail.
- Idaho would start with three linked communities, Challis, Mackey and Arco with the potential to link 12 more including: May, Patterson, Moore, Carey, Richfield, Howe, Leslie, Darlington, Salmon, Tendoy, Leadore and Clayton.
- Land managers estimate that 47,000 ATV riders use the Paiute Trail System each year.
- The Utah trail system has become it's own destination for ATV enthusiasts from all over the nation. It is estimated that the average ATV user spends approximately \$150 per day while using the trail.
- Communities linked to the Utah Paiute Trail have shared in more than \$4 million in increased visitor spending since the trail was established.

Demonstration Project Public Involvement Strategy

- Most contacts will be personal by IDPR staff members to be followed up with letter and schedule of public meetings
- Key points:
 - We want to be inclusive and ask for participation up front
 - We want to encourage a sharing of concerns and ideas for solutions
 - The big focus of the project will be on inventorying baseline recreational, resource, wildlife and economic data and then measuring and documenting the outcome of specific management strategies implemented
 - This is the first of several demonstration projects we hope to develop around the state. While this one is of most interest to motorized trail users, future projects will take a similar look at non motorized corridor opportunities for hikers, mountain bikers, equestrians, waterway users and others
 - A workgroup of interested parties will be formed to assist with the design and monitoring of the demonstration project.

Demonstration Project Work Group

In order to better understand the needs of various interests, we plan to create a work group in the early summer of 2002. The group will identify issues and opportunities and help us develop solid methods for gathering baseline data. We want to be very inclusive so that potential problems can be identified and resolved early. The process will include personal contact with many individuals and groups as well as a series of public presentations and comment opportunities. We hope to keep the group at a manageable number of about 12 people, each representing an agency or interest key to project success, such as:

1. Forest Service representative
2. BLM Land representative
3. Fish and Game representative
4. County Commissioner representative
5. Travel Region representative
6. Idaho Conservation League representative
7. ORMV User representative
8. ORMV Industry representative
9. City representative
10. Private Landowner representative
11. Economic Development representative
12. Law enforcement representative

Baseline Data to be gathered for Demonstration Project

- Recreational Data – Including but not limited to: Current recreational needs (SCORPT), trends, OHMV use patterns, inventory current usage and OHMV user or other recreational experience data
- Wildlife Data - Including but not limited to: Game counts, wildlife management goals, vulnerability studies, hunter data, threatened or endangered species considerations
- Resource Data - Including but not limited to: Inventory of all trails to be included in demonstration project area on public or adjacent private lands, Current USFS and BLM land management and travel plans and future NEPA considerations
- Economic Data - Including but not limited to: Lodging, restaurant, fuel sales data, employment data and other pertinent economic indicators for communities and county businesses.

Cost estimates to be developed

- Costs associated with the collection of Baseline Data
- Costs associated with the administering the Demonstration Project, Public Involvement Process and Workgroup meetings
- Costs associated with the on the ground Management of the Demonstration Project including: signing, brochures and other educational materials

Proposed Timeline

- March 2002 thru May 2002 - Public Notice and Presentations of recently completed ATV Study and Custer/Lemhi/Butte County Demonstration Project Proposal
- June 2002 thru August 2002 - Base Line information gathering for Demonstration Project
- September 2002 thru December 2002 - Public information meetings on base line data collected, presentation of Management Concept Proposal for Custer/Lemhi/Butte County Demonstration Project and formation on Demonstration Project Workgroup.
- January 2003 thru March 2003 - Demonstration Project Workgroup meetings to develop proposed management strategy for Demonstration Project.
- April 2003 thru May 2003 - Public information meetings on proposed management strategy for Demonstration Project.
- June 2003 thru August 2003 - Implement first year plan of action for Demonstration Project.

- September 2003 thru October 2003 - Demonstration Project Workgroup meetings to review results of first year plan of action and Base Line information for Demonstration Project.
- November 2003 thru December 2003 - Public information meetings on results of first year plan of action and Base Line information for Demonstration Project.
- January 2004 thru February 2004 - Demonstration Project Workgroup meetings to review public input on results of first year plan of action and Base Line information for Demonstration Project and to plan management strategy for second year action plan.
- March 2004 thru May 2004 - Public information meetings on planned management strategy for second year action plan.
- June 2004 thru August 2004 - Implement second year plan of action for Demonstration Project.
- September 2004 thru October 2004 - Demonstration Project Workgroup meetings to review results of second year plan of action and Base Line information for Demonstration Project.
- November 2004 thru December 2004 - Public information meetings on results of second year plan of action and Base Line information for Demonstration Project.
- January 2005 thru February 2005 - Demonstration Project Workgroup meetings to review public input on results of second year plan of action and Base Line information for Demonstration Project and to plan management strategy for third year action plan.
- March 2005 thru May 2005 - Public information meetings on planned management strategy for third year action plan.
- June 2005 thru August 2005 - Implement third year plan of action for Demonstration Project.

APPENDIX II



IDAHO FISH AND GAME
99 Highway 93 North/PO Box 1336
Salmon, Idaho 83467

Dirk Kempthorne/Governor
Steve Huffaker/Director

January 6, 2003

David W. Claycomb
IDPR
P.O. Box 1876
Idaho Falls, ID 83403-1876

Dear David:

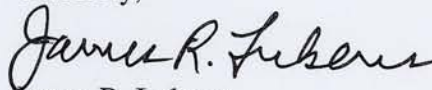
Fish and Game staff from regions six and seven met to review the off-highway vehicle (OHV) Multi-Use Demo project. The designated route was evaluated against wildlife and fisheries impacts. Enclosed are nine ArcView maps with the designated route plotted against important wildlife areas. Use these maps for reference with respect to the following comments.

- 1) As shown on the enclosed maps, the route passes through many important wildlife areas. Most of the areas provide critical winter range for elk, deer, antelope and bighorn sheep and critical winter range and breeding/nesting sites for sage grouse. For big game, OHV impacts would be minimized if use was restricted between November 1 - April 30. With sage grouse, the dates would be November 1 - May 15. Note on the maps the route passes through several sage grouse leks. The Sage grouse Guidelines recommend a 3.2 km buffer around leks to minimize disturbance to breeding and nesting activities. With pending ESA sage grouse listings this should be an important element affecting the route designation.
- 2) The Challis National Forest Land Resource Management Plan calls for dispersed recreational opportunities and improved wildlife habitat productivity through improvement projects and coordination with other resources. Likewise, the Challis Resource Area Resource Management Plan for the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) calls for providing OHV use while limiting OHV use in areas where that use would cause degradation to other resources' values. Developing and marketing this OHV route will likely cause a dramatic increase in OHV use on the existing road and trail systems and camping on developed and non-developed sites, as seen with the Paiute trail system in Utah. To adequately address these impacts to wildlife and fisheries habitats, we recommend both the Forest Service and BLM initiate the NEPA process to evaluate this increased use. This may require the Forest Service to re-evaluate their existing travel plan and the BLM to develop a travel plan for the area.

- 3) The Idaho Fish and Game Commission and Department are concerned about OHV abuses and user conflicts on public lands. The designated route passes through a very scenic part of Idaho with numerous adjoining trails and roads. Increased OHV use will likely occur on the proposed and adjacent areas, exacerbating OHV abuse on critical wildlife habitats and user conflicts, particularly during the big game hunting seasons. Enforcement will be necessary to accommodate the increased use. As part of this proposal, enhanced law enforcement efforts by IDPR, USDA-Forest Service and USDI-BLM should be outlined.
- 4) Noxious weeds are threatening wildlife habitats throughout the designated route area. The maps identify several infested areas. Of greater concern is the spread of existing and new species of noxious weeds. In other areas of the state, road and trail systems are the primary vectors of weed seed dispersal. We suggest you address this issue by providing OHV cleaning stations in Arco, Mackay and Challis, outlining a noxious weed control program for the area, and emphasizing the importance of weed control in the proposal and future marketing of the trail system.
- 5) The designated route follows existing roads and trails. However, to accommodate safe OHV use and mitigate resource damage, particularly accelerated soil erosion and stream sedimentation, some trail shaping/contouring and maintenance will be needed. Trail/road design specifications should be outlined in the proposal.
- 6) To adequately evaluate OHV impacts to the area, a monitoring program should be part of the proposal. Where problems are identified, corrective actions can then be taken. Data collected should include OHV visitor days, time of use, use by designated trail sections, OHV citations, newly pioneered unauthorized trails and roads, noxious weed distributions and documented hunter-related user conflicts.

The demand for OHV use on public lands is increasing every year. The challenge is, where and how do we direct use in such a manner to minimize impacts to our natural resources? The Department is very concerned about OHV impacts on our fish and wildlife resources. However, if this proposal can accommodate OHV users and at the same time protect these resources, it becomes a win-win situation. But this will require the proper programs and restrictions are in place up front. Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

Sincerely,

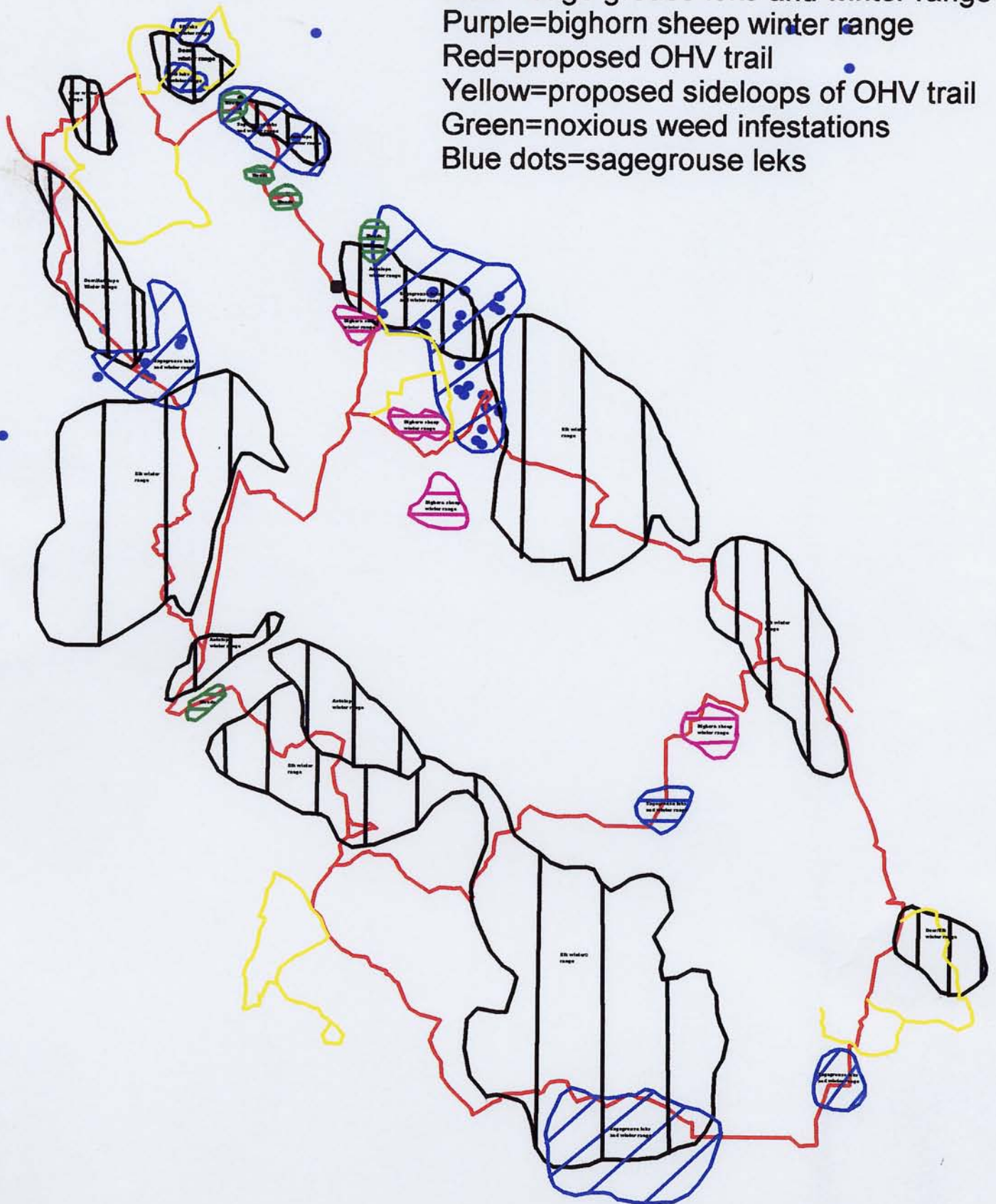


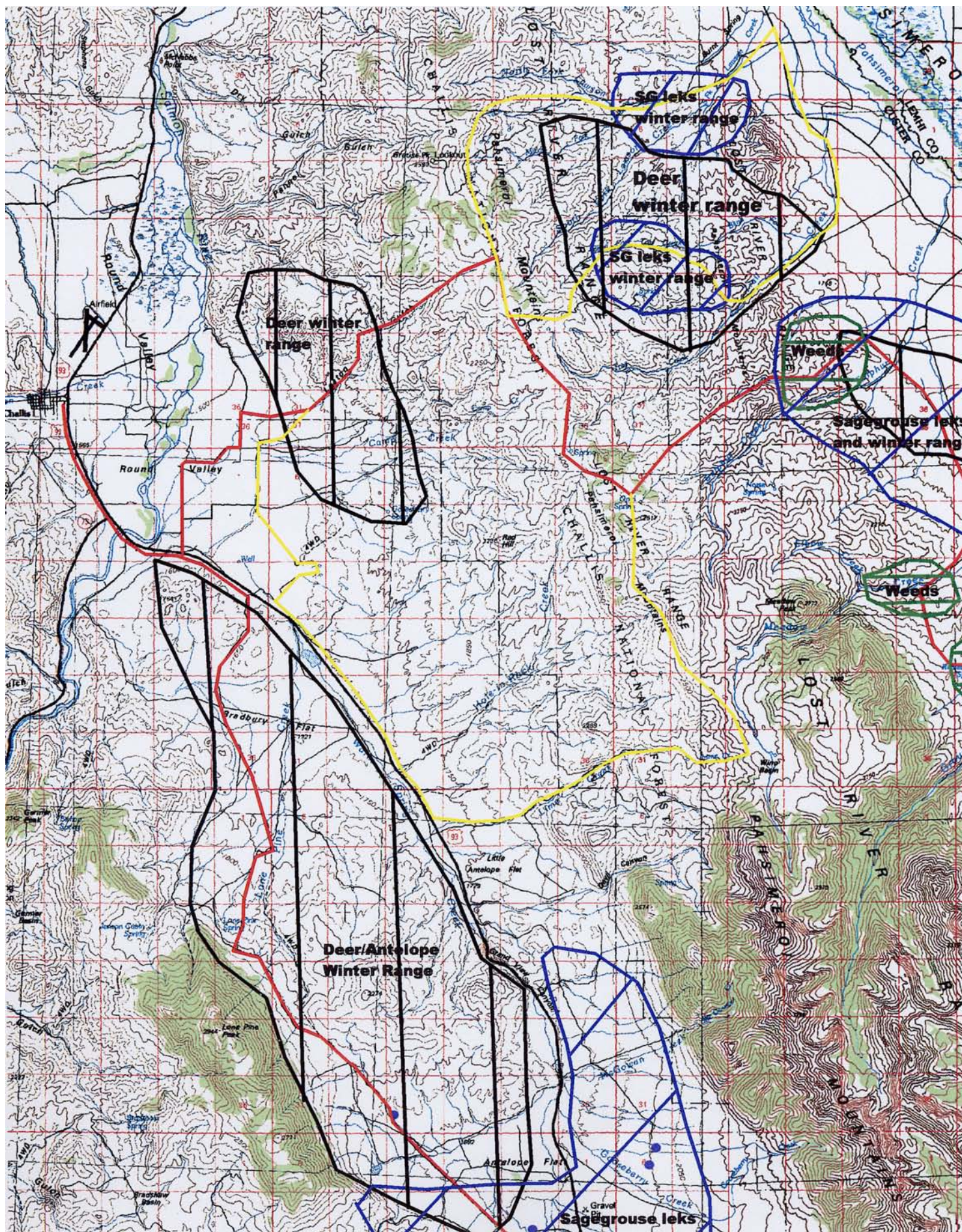
James R. Lukens
Regional Supervisor

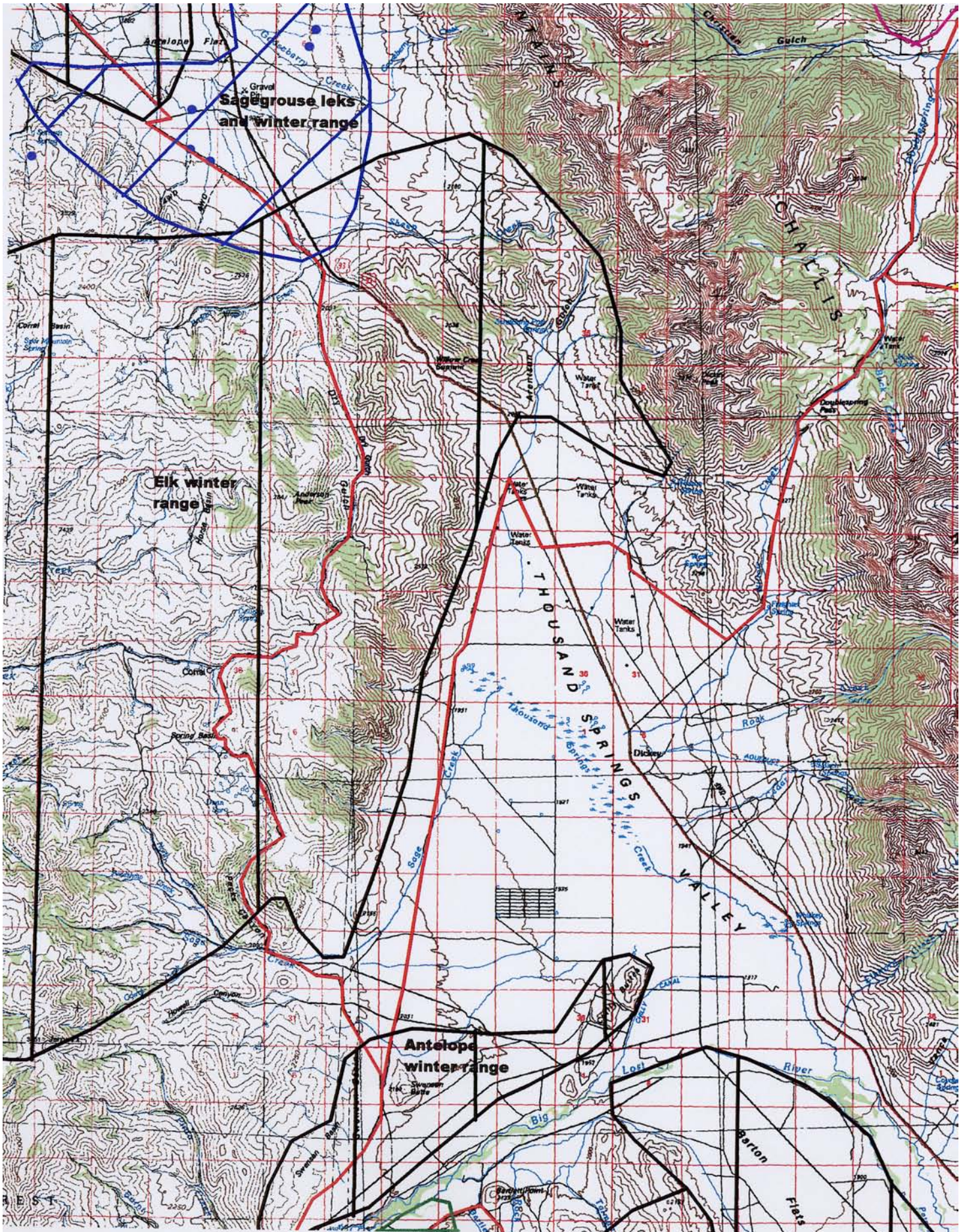
cc: Steve Schmidt, IDFG Region 6
Dave Silcock, IDFG
Mark Armbruster, IDFG

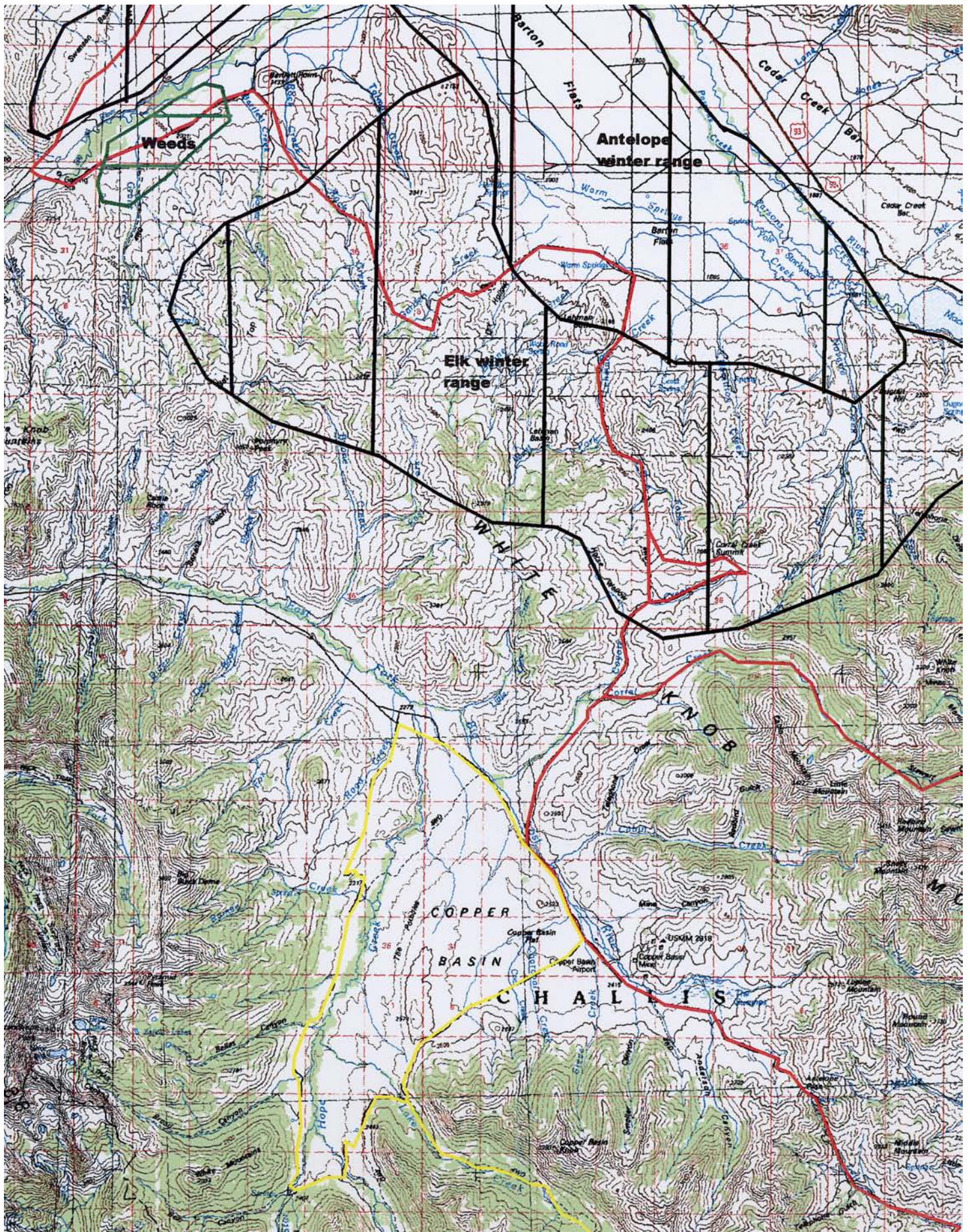
Attachments: T:/Region 7/OHV (8 maps and 1 key)

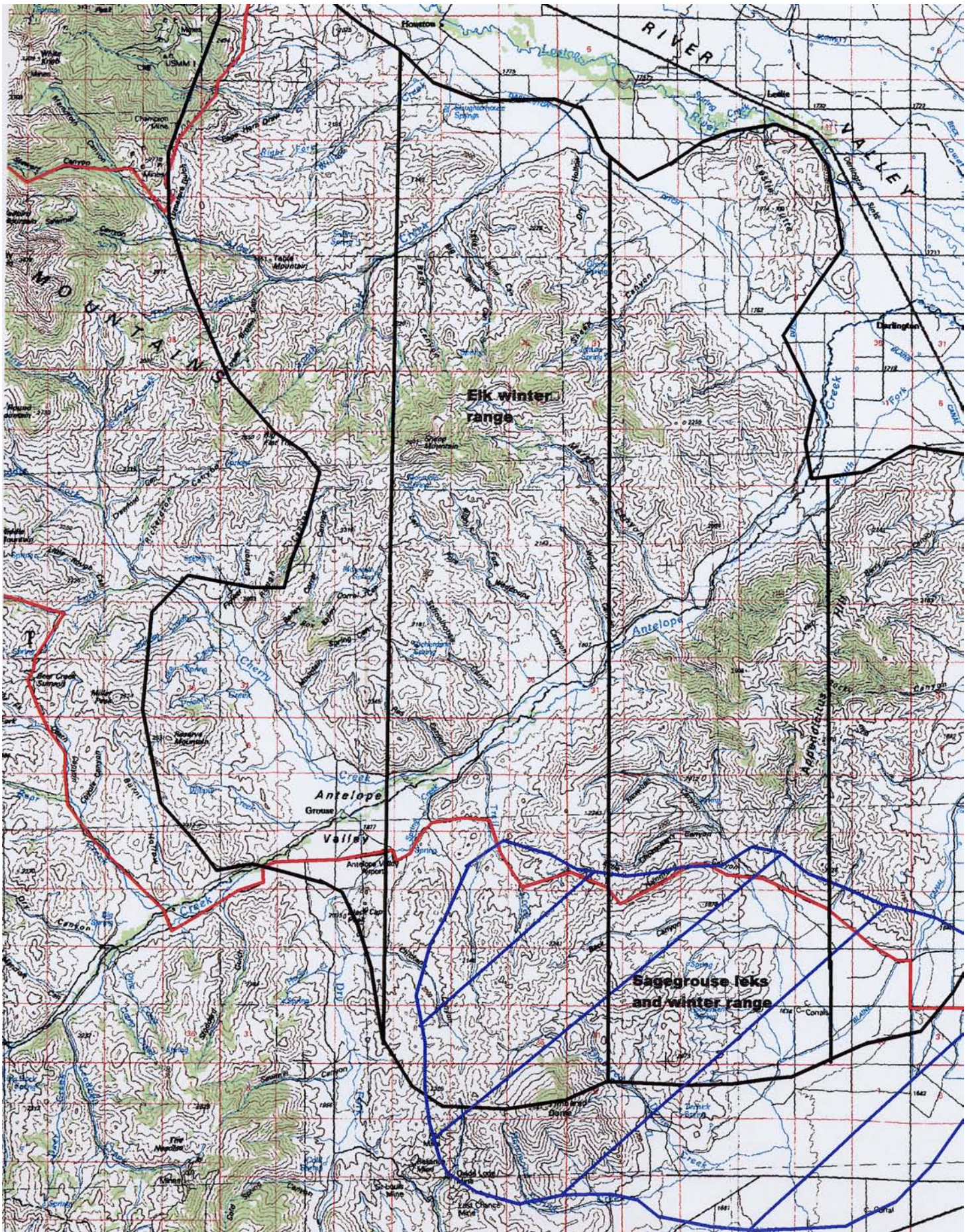
Black=deer/elk or antelope winter range
 Blue =sage grouse leks and winter range
 Purple=bighorn sheep winter range
 Red=proposed OHV trail
 Yellow=proposed sideloops of OHV trail
 Green=noxious weed infestations
 Blue dots=sagegrouse leks

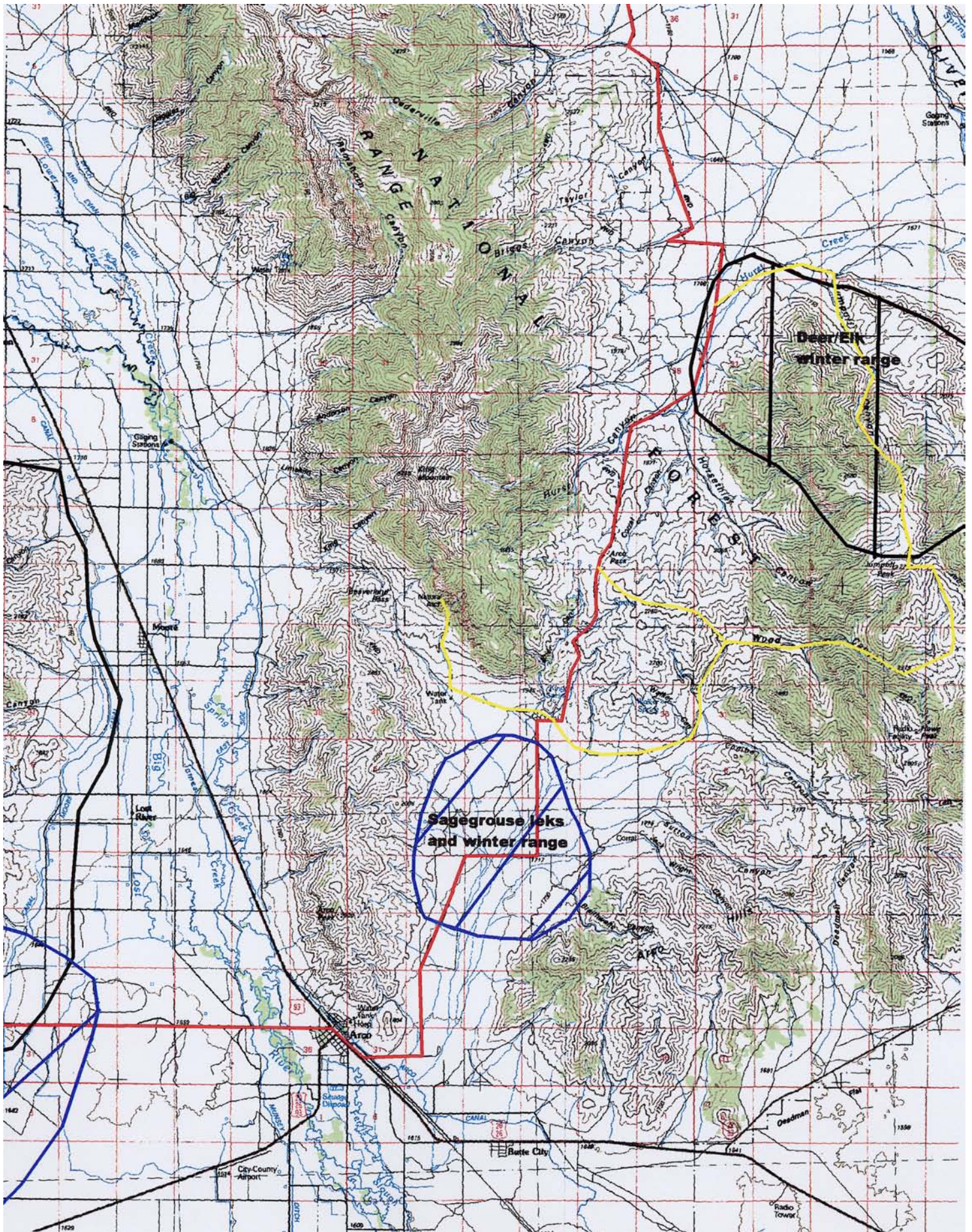


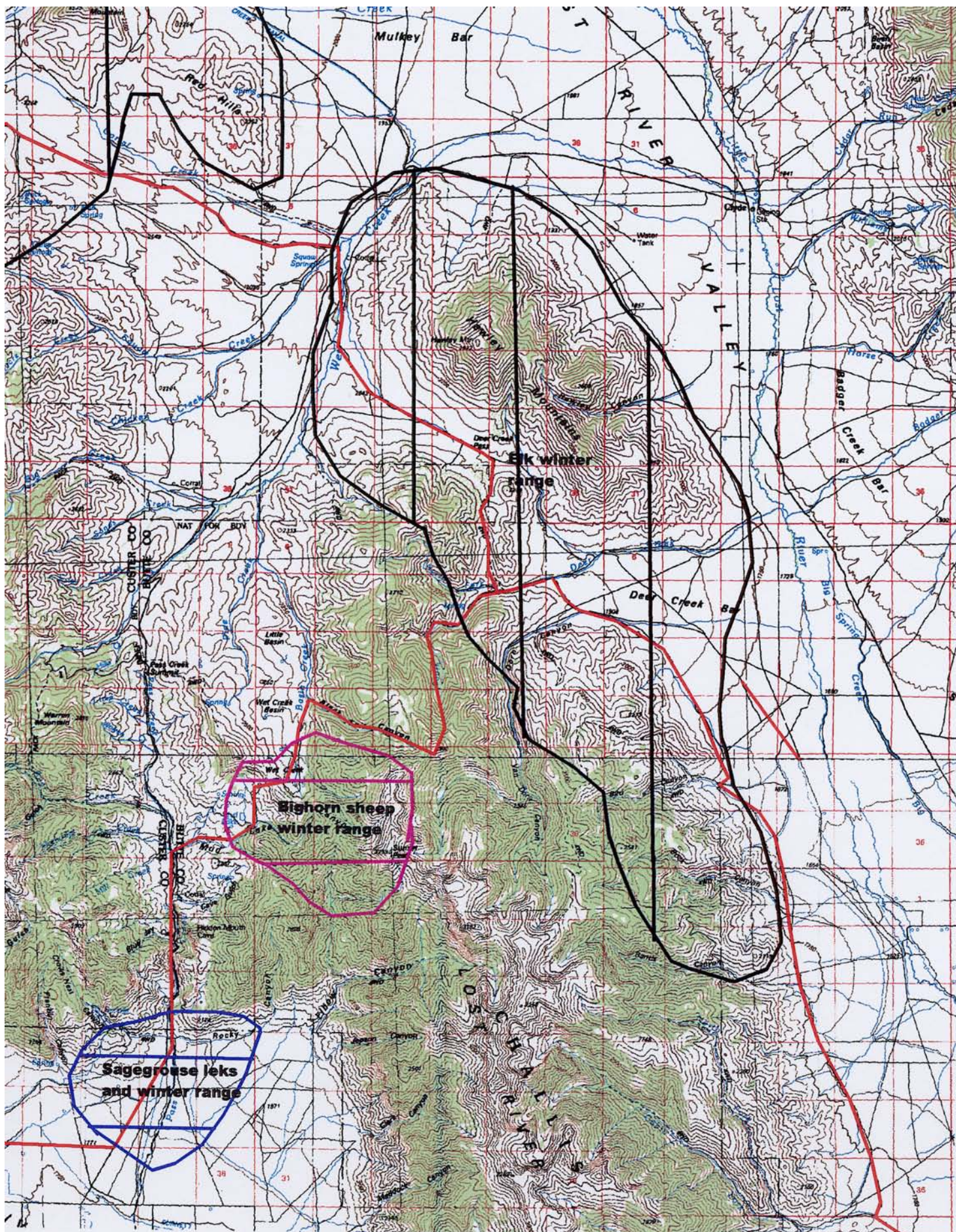


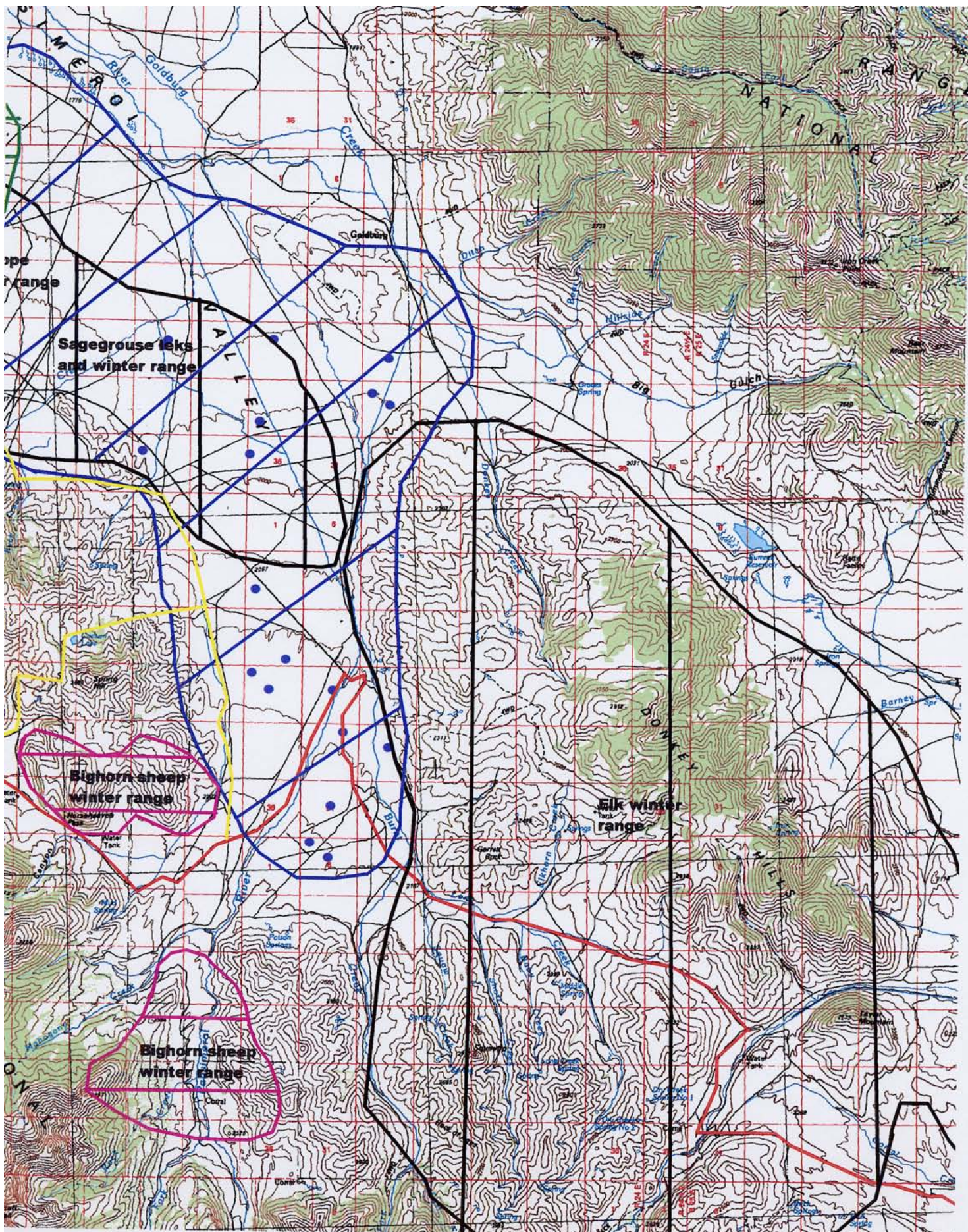


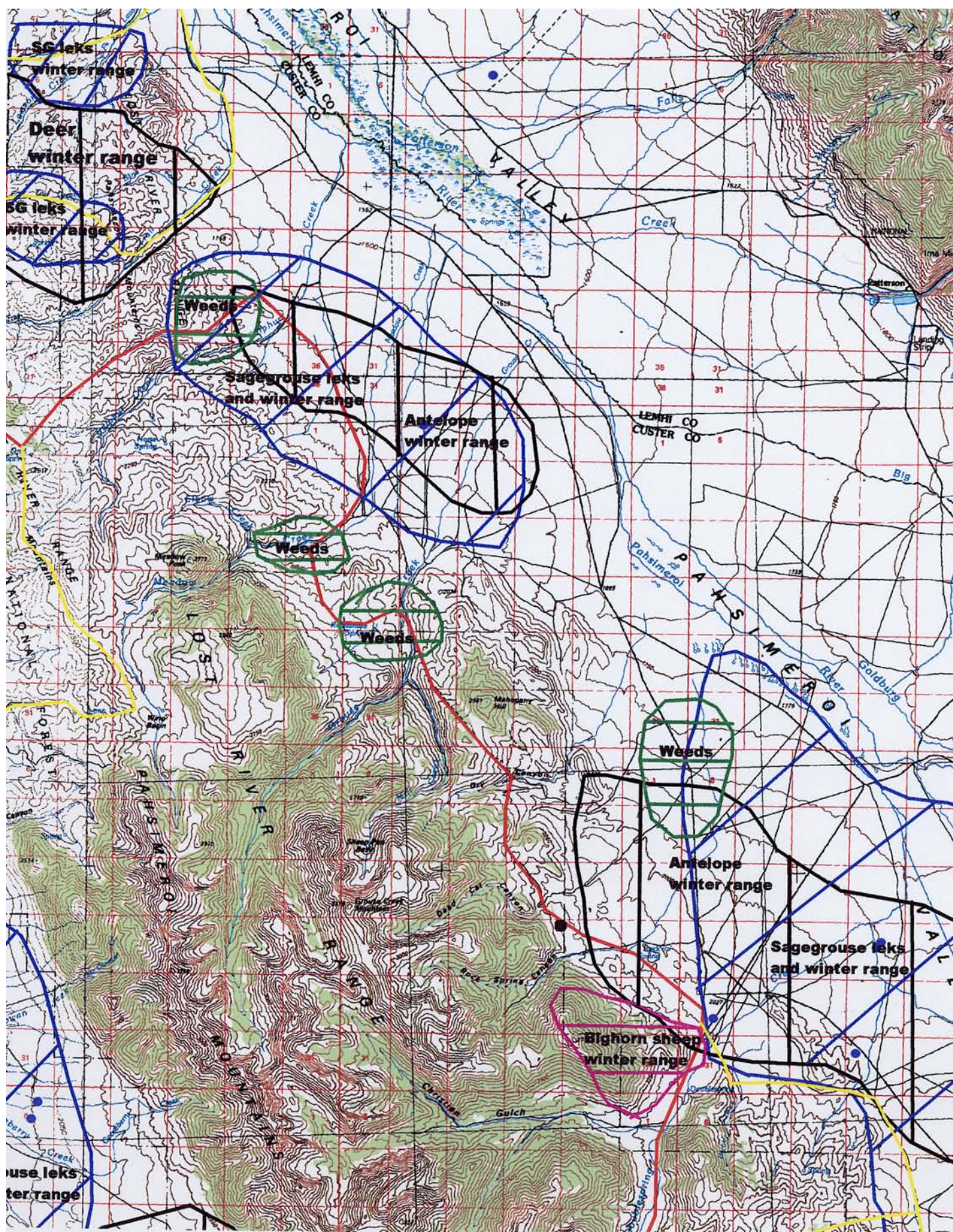






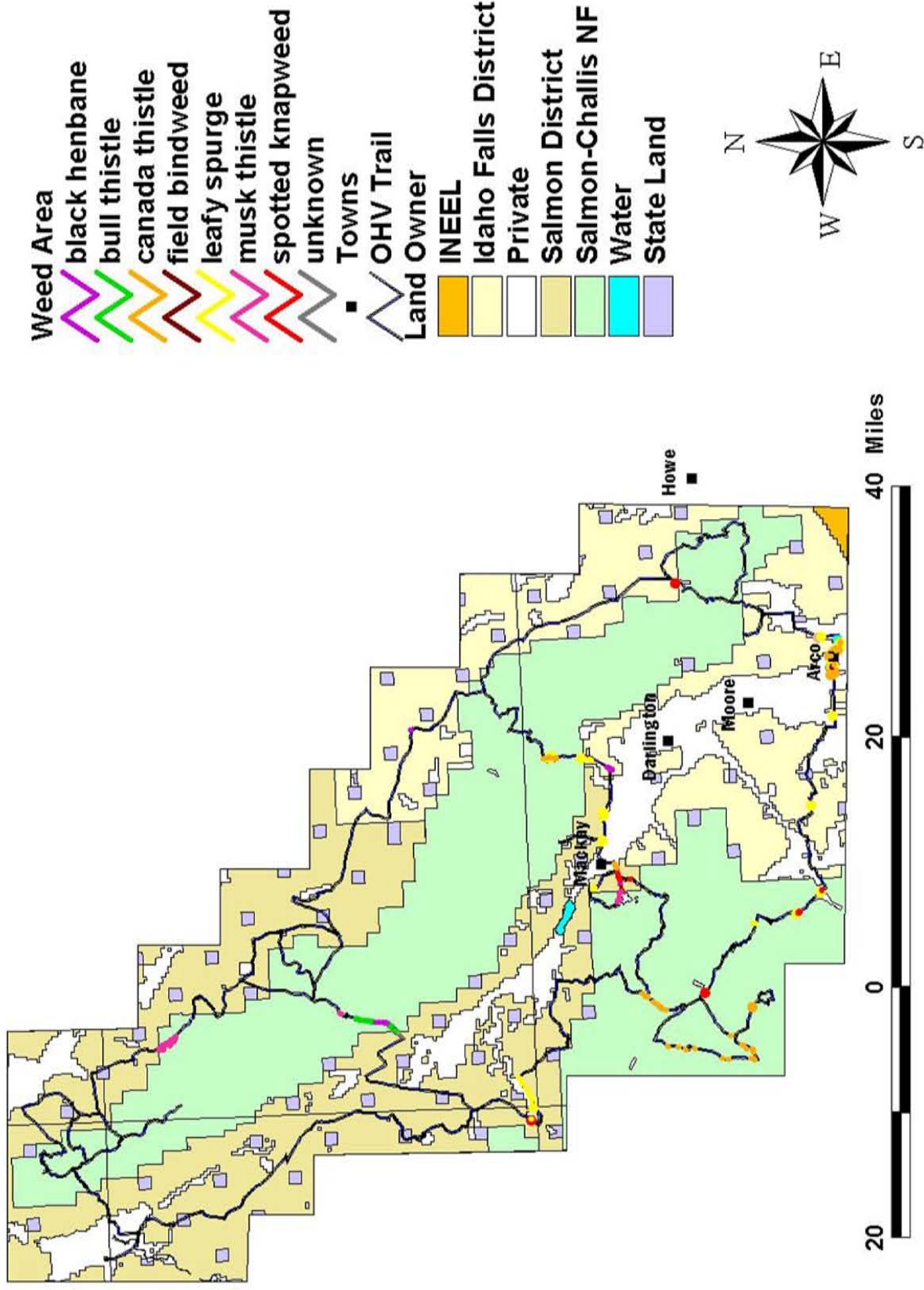






APPENDIX III

OHV Trail Noxious Weed Infestations



APPENDIX IV

Economic Information

CUSTER COUNTY/CHALLIS

Number of Employees for Businesses Located in Challis:	668	Avg for 4 th Qtr 2002
Number of Businesses in Challis:	84	
*Total Sales for County 1 st 2003:	\$8,231,741	
*Total Nontaxable Sales for County	\$3,292,444	
*Tax Due	\$257,398	
County Unemployment Rate for Year 2001	7.6 %	
Civilian Labor Force 2001	2,150	
County Unemployment Rate for Year 2002	8.3%	
Civilian Labor Force 2002	2,020	
County Unemployment Rate for June 2003	5.5%	
Civilian Labor Force June 2003	2,310	
Population Challis 2002	873	
2001	893	
2000	909	

CUSTER COUNTY/MACKAY

Number of Employees for Businesses Located in Mackay:	369	Avg for 4 th Qtr 2002
Number of Businesses in Mackay:	48	
County Data same as Custer/Challis Above		
Population Mackay 2002	546	
2001	558	
2000	566	

BUTTE COUNTY/ARCO

Number of Employees for Businesses Located in Arco: 4,985		Avg for 4 th Qtr 2002
Includes site workers		
Number of Businesses in Arco:	103	
*Total Sales for County 1 st Qtr 2003:	\$4,691,082	
*Total Nontaxable Sales for County	\$1,989,236	
*Tax Due	\$185,183	
County Unemployment Rate for Year 2001	3.9%	
Civilian Labor Force 2001	1,595	
County Unemployment Rate for Year 2002	4.3%	
Civilian Labor Force 2002	1,561	
County Unemployment Rate for June 2003	4.4%	
Civilian Labor Force June 2003	1,570	
Population Arco 2002	1,022	
2001	1,008	
2000	1,026	

*Source: Idaho State Tax Commission, 4/4/03

All information is source of Idaho Department of Labor unless marked differently

Fiscal Year 2002—Custer County Total Gross Retail Sales

Sporting Goods, Bike, Gun, Ski, etc.	\$514,954
RV Park Camping	\$157,851
Recreation Services	\$662,672
Recreation Facilities	\$326,860
Guides and Outfitters	\$2,323,986
Lodging Accommodations	\$6,544,031
Hotel, Motel, and B&B	\$5,792,641
Eating Establishments	\$1,737,358
Bars and Lounges	\$279,969

Fiscal Year 2002—Butte County Total Gross Retail Sales

Sporting Goods, Bike, Gun, Ski, etc.	\$49,000
RV Park Camping	\$59,000
Recreation Services	\$3,618
Recreation Facilities	\$222,589
Guides and Outfitters	\$0
Lodging Accommodations	\$3,502
Hotel, Motel, and B&B	\$303,940
Eating Establishments	\$1,000,000
Bars and Lounges	\$304,000

* Source: Service Corps of Retired Executives (SCORE) Chapter 295—Idaho Falls

APPENDIX

*V

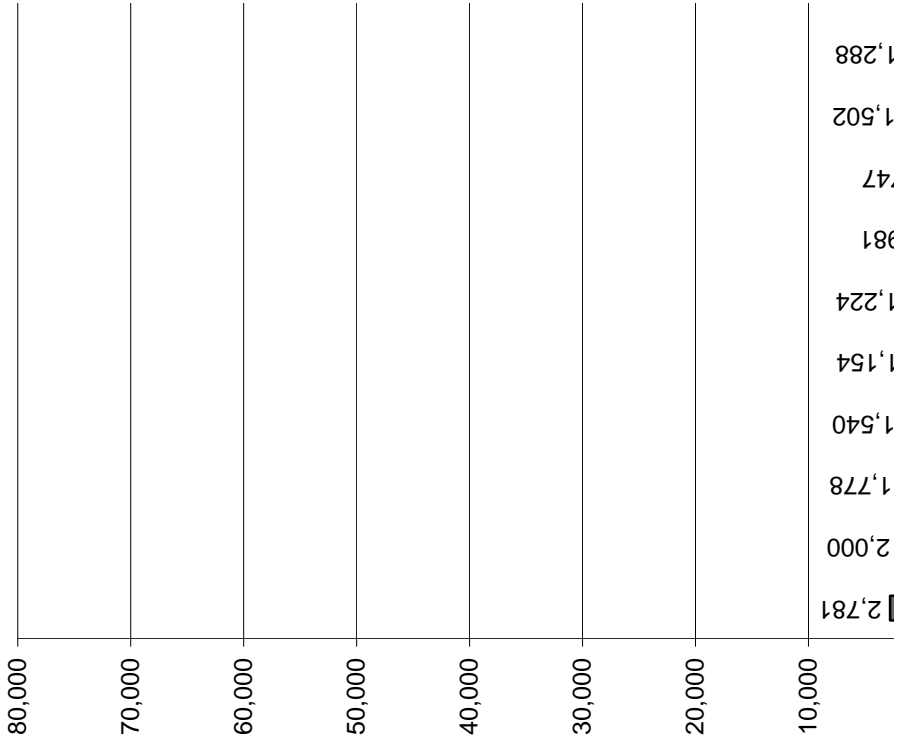
*The most current proposed map
is available, in full size, at the BLM field office in Challis.

L O S T R I V E R

(See Map File)

APPENDIX VI

Idaho Off-Highway Vehicle



IDAHO MOTORBIKE/ATV REGISTRATION STATISTICS 1998 - 2002

County	1998 Registrations	1999 Registrations	2000 Registrations	2001 Registrations	2002 Registrations	2001-2002 % Change
Region 1						
Benewah	444	564	627	715	1,005	40.6%
Bonner	647	755	942	1,184	1,357	14.6%
Boundary	58	92	89	140	201	43.6%
Kootenai	2,656	3,311	3,779	4,430	5,125	15.7%
Shoshone	631	812	859	932	1,024	9.9%
Region 1 Total	4,436	5,534	6,296	7,401	8,712	17.7%
Region 2						
Clearwater	376	541	649	739	744	0.7%
Idaho	508	681	796	937	1,070	14.2%
Latah	897	1,153	1,304	1,322	1,384	4.7%
Lewis	219	304	353	368	382	3.8%
Nez Perce	1,412	1,673	1,878	1,940	2,117	9.1%
Region 2 Total	3,412	4,352	4,980	5,306	5,697	7.4%
Region 3						
Ada	7,701	9,093	10,397	11,889	13,379	12.5%
Adams	182	201	243	281	317	12.8%
Boise	213	246	357	500	579	15.8%
Canyon	3,225	3,799	4,473	5,499	6,482	17.9%
Elmore	585	749	872	1,024	1,195	16.7%
Gem	738	802	918	1,035	1,152	11.3%
Owyhee	241	282	338	393	504	28.2%
Payette	588	708	804	916	1,041	13.6%
Valley	416	518	559	653	726	11.2%
Washington	234	281	341	375	446	18.9%
Region 3 Total	14,123	16,679	19,302	22,565	25,821	14.4%
Region 4						
Blaine	496	503	655	821	889	8.3%
Camas	27	27	45	64	81	26.6%
Cassia	499	543	611	697	842	20.8%
Gooding	430	537	591	650	782	20.3%
Jerome	532	601	704	881	993	12.7%
Lincoln	72	107	143	210	239	13.8%
Minidoka	469	574	691	753	890	18.2%
Twin Falls	1,855	2,280	2,602	2,912	3,239	11.2%
Region 4 Total	4,380	5,172	6,042	6,988	7,955	13.8%
Region 5						
Bannock	1,927	2,196	2,476	2,900	3,436	18.5%
Bear Lake	478	544	610	748	868	16.0%
Bingham	1,115	1,258	1,457	1,857	2,250	21.2%
Caribou	398	495	557	631	726	15.1%
Franklin	483	571	664	846	986	16.5%
Oneida	130	132	182	215	257	19.5%
Power	157	168	174	181	229	26.5%
Region 5 Total	4,688	5,364	6,120	7,378	8,752	18.6%
Region 6						
Bonneville	1,958	2,258	2,782	3,405	4,220	23.9%
Butte	115	132	138	161	230	42.9%
Clark	7	11	13	17	16	-5.9%
Custer	146	190	212	237	289	21.9%
Fremont	263	337	425	539	657	21.9%
Jefferson	691	806	1,030	1,101	1,354	23.0%
Lemhi	55	104	127	295	395	33.9%
Madison	412	480	559	747	880	17.8%
Teton	56	69	121	164	167	1.8%
Region 6 Total	3,703	4,387	5,407	6,666	8,208	23.1%
Out of State	1,892	1,910	2,895	3,091	3,376	9.2%
Grand Total	36,634	43,398	51,042	59,395	68,521	15.4%

APPENDIX VII

Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation

PO Box 83720 • Boise ID 83720-0065 • 208-334-4199 • fax: 208-334-5232

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: January 24, 2003
Contact: Jennifer Couture, Public Information Officer
208-334-4180, ext. 234; FAX 334-3741,
jcouture@idpr.state.id.us

PUBLIC HEARING TO BE HELD TO ADDRESS ATV MANAGEMENT ISSUES

BOISE - The Senate Resources and Environment and the House Resource and Conservation Committees will hold a joint public hearing to discuss issues associated with increased use of All Terrain Vehicles (ATV's) on public lands in Idaho.

The hearing is scheduled to take place Tuesday, January 28, 2003, at 6:30 p.m., in the Gold Room, Fourth Floor of the Capitol Building. The purpose of the hearing is to create a forum for sharing information and discuss opportunities for developing practical management solutions for ATV use, that will minimize damage to resources caused by the increase in ATV user numbers and/or irresponsible users.

The Committee chairs have invited a cross-section of presenters to the hearing to share their perspectives of ATV management issues and challenges.

"As the state agency responsible for administering the Idaho Off Highway Motorvehicle Program, we appreciate the opportunity that we have been given to present information on ATV management to both the Senate and the House. The hearing will be very informative, with many interests represented and diverse perspectives offered," said Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation Director, Rick Collignon.

The list of those invited to testify, includes representatives from the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, land management agencies (U.S. Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Idaho Department of Lands), wildlife and conservation organizations (Idaho Department of Fish and Game, Idaho Conservation League, Idaho Wildlife Federation), recreational user groups (Idaho A.T.V. Association, Idaho Trail Machine Association, Idaho Outfitters and Guides Association, Idaho Trails Council, Idaho State Snowmobile Association, Blue Ribbon Coalition), economic development organizations (Idaho Department of Commerce, Challis

City Council, Mackay City Council, Arco City Council), and other land use perspectives (Idaho Cattleman's Association, Idaho Farm Bureau Federation, Custer County Commission, Butte County Commission).

An overview of current issues, trends, registration and management activities will be presented at the hearing as well as possible management strategies by the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation. Other topics to be discussed at the hearing include: ATV Demonstration Project proposal for Custer and Butte Counties, Statewide Coordinating Workgroup and User Compliance of registration and trail restrictions on the ground.

The public is invited to attend and participate in the hearing. For additional information, please call (208) 332-1136 (House Committee) or (208) 332-1333 (Senate Committee).

Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation

PO Box 83720 • Boise ID 83720-0065 • 208-334-4199 • fax: 208-334-5232

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: January 27, 2003
Contact: Jennifer Couture, Public Information Officer
Phone: 208-334-4180, ext. 234
Fax: 208-334-3741

Important Information For ATV And Off-Highway Motorcycle Users

Idaho – In the past five years, Idaho's growing population has resulted in a huge increase in all-terrain vehicles (ATV) and off-highway motorcycles used on public lands and roads in Idaho. Many motorcycle and ATV riders are confused about the requirements for registration, equipment, and where they can legally ride.

The Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation (IDPR) would like to offer important registration and use information for ATV and off-highway motorcycle users.

On or before January 1 of each year, the owner of ATV's or motorbikes used off-public highways must register that vehicle with IDPR. Motorbikes and ATV's used exclusively for agricultural purposes are excluded. The department or its authorized vendors will issue to the owner a validation sticker and a registration stating the number assigned to the ATV or motorbike and the name and the address of the owner. The registration fee is \$10.00 and the stickers are valid through the end of calendar year 2003.

The current definition of an ATV includes vehicles weighing less than 650 lbs, a width less than 48", three or more tires, traveling on low-pressure tires of less than 5 psi and designed to be ridden by one person.

For highway operation, motorbikes and ATV's must register as a motor vehicle and purchase a license plate. For more information contact your County Assessor's Motor Vehicle office.

Riding requirements for motorbikes and ATV's depend on where you want to ride your motorbike/ATV. Riding locations can be broken down into five different categories: off-highway, on-highway, unpaved roads on state and federal public land, on-highways specifically designated by ordinance for off-highway use, and ATV's on groomed snowmobile trails.

Off-Highway Requirements

There are three requirements for ATV's and motorbikes operating off-highway on an unmaintained road, trail or area.

- Valid Motorbike/ATV Registration and Sticker
- Muffler and spark arrestor
- Your muffler has to pass 96 db at the half-meter test

Registration for off-highway use can be obtained at Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, motorbike and ATV dealers, and County Assessor's Motor Vehicle Offices.

Idaho law requires owners of off-highway vehicles acquired since 1991 to title them. Idaho law also requires owners to pay the sales tax on their off-highway vehicles before they receive the title. Owners can title their vehicles and pay the sales tax at their county assessor's motor vehicle office. For questions on sales tax, contact the Idaho State Tax Commission at (208) 334-7660 or (800) 972-7660.

To test your bike for sound compliance, contact your nearest Outdoor Recreation Program Specialists with the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation: (North Idaho, Troy Elmore (208) 769-1511; Southwest Idaho, Todd Wernex (208) 334-4180 ext. 256; Eastern Idaho, David Claycomb (208) 525-7121).

On-Highway Requirements

The following are only some of the requirements to operate a motorbike or ATV on roads, which are part of the state highway system, and paved roads on public land management agency lands. In general, roads that are paved or have a well-maintained surface.

- Valid driver's license, if you are operating a motorbike, you must have a motorcycle endorsement
- Valid registration as a motor vehicle
- Display of valid license plate
- Valid liability insurance / proof of insurance in vehicle
- Brake light
- Headlight after dark/poor visibility
- Tail light after dark/poor visibility
- Helmet for riders under the age of 18 (motorcycle only)
- Muffler unaltered and in good working condition
- Mirror showing roadway 200 feet behind the vehicle
- Horn must be audible at 200 feet

Registration for highway use can be obtained at any County Department of Motor Vehicles.

Unpaved Roads on Federal and State Public Lands Requirements

Unpaved roads that are maintained and managed by a public land management agency such as the United State Forest Service, Bureau of Land Management, Idaho Department of Lands, Idaho Department of Fish and Game, and the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation have the following requirements:

- Valid driver's license, if you are operating a motorbike, you must have a motorcycle endorsement
- Valid motorbike/ATV registration and sticker or valid license plate and registration
- Valid liability insurance / proof of insurance in vehicle
- Helmet for riders under the age of 18 (motorcycle only)
- Muffler and spark arrestor
- Your muffler has to pass 96 db at the half-meter test
- Headlight after dark/poor visibility
- Tail light after dark/poor visibility

Highways Designated for Off-highway Use Requirements

Idaho Code 49-426 allows districts; counties and cities to designate certain roadways for off-highway motorbike and ATV use. These highway segments or segments of highways have to be clearly posted for off-highway motorbike and ATV use and have the following requirements:

- Valid driver's license, if you are operating a motorbike, you must have a motorcycle endorsement
- Valid motorbike/ATV registration and sticker or valid license plate and registration
- Valid liability insurance / proof of insurance in vehicle
- Helmet for riders under the age of 18 (motorcycle only)
- Muffler and spark arrestor
- Your muffler has to pass 96 db at the half-meter test
- Headlight after dark/poor visibility
- Tail light after dark/poor visibility

ATV's On Snowmobile Trails

Any ATV operating on a groomed snowmobile trail must purchase a snowmobile registration. Counties have the option to allow ATV's on groomed snowmobile trails.

Idaho has some of the best off-highway motorbike and ATV riding in the nation. Over 95 percent of these opportunities are on National Forest and Public Land. The U.S. Forest Service provides travel plan maps that identify open and closed roads and trails; closure dates and other details that will help you plan an enjoyable ride. The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) also has riding information. Visit www.fs.fed.us or www.id.blm.gov to find the Forest Service and BLM locations nearest you.

Additional information about registration requirements for your off-highway motorbike or ATV can be found by visiting www.idahoparks.org or by calling the Idaho Department of Parks and recreation Registration offices at (208) 334-4197.

Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation

PO Box 83720 • Boise ID 83720-0065 • 208-334-4199 • fax: 208-334-5232

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Date: February 28, 2003
Contact: Jennifer Couture, Public Information Officer
Phone: 208-334-4180, ext. 234
Fax: 208-334-3741

Public Comment Period Extended on Proposed ATV Project

IDAHO –Due to a high level of public interest regarding the proposed Off Highway Vehicle Demonstration project and trail, in the Lost River Valley, additional public information meetings have been scheduled, and the public comment period has been extended until April 15, 2003, IDPR announced. The Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation (IDPR) wants all interested individuals to be given the opportunity to offer their input. With more than 70,000 ATVs and Motorbikes registered in Idaho as of the 21st of February, according to Parks and Recreation Director Rick Collignon, “It is a safe assumption that they are here to stay and we now more than ever need to invest our time in developing solutions that create legitimate riding opportunities for these users as well as manage their use affectively.”

Public information meetings for the proposed Challis to Arco OHV trail project will be held in three additional locations:

- March 18, Idaho Falls, Red Lion on the Falls, Bannock Room-(Formerly West Coast), 7-9 pm
- March 20, Hailey, Wood River High School Auditorium, 7-9 pm
- April 1, Pocatello, Red Lion Hotel, Bannock Room-(Formerly West Coast), 7-9 pm

The informational meetings are being held for the proposed OHV-Demo trail that would link the communities of Challis, Mackay, and Arco utilizing existing routes. Representatives from IDPR, the U.S. Forest Service, the Bureau of Land Management, and Butte and Custer counties will also be in attendance. The purpose of the proposed trail is to help addresses increased ATV recreation demands of the area, while providing improved management and education of OHV users on existing roads and trails located on public lands. “The public information meetings are designed to give the public an opportunity learn about the proposal, to comment on the proposed demonstration project, identify issues, address concerns and have their questions answered,” said IDPR Director Rick Collignon. “The most valuable management and planning strategies are the ones focused on developing solutions and supported with good public involvement.”

APPENDIX VIII

DRAFT
MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
between
USDA – FOREST SERVICE, SALMON – CHALLIS NATIONAL FOREST
and
BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT
and
IDAHO DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is made and entered into by and between the United States Department of Agriculture, Forest Service, Salmon-Challis National Forest, hereinafter referred to as the Forest Service, and the Bureau of Land Management, Upper Snake River District and Upper Columbia, Salmon, Clearwater District, hereinafter referred to as the BLM, and the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation, hereinafter referred to as IDPR. Collectively, the Forest Service, BLM and IDPR are hereinafter referred to as the parties.

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding is to coordinate and combine efforts to manage Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) use, and protect and interpret natural resources *and uses in the geographical area (known as the Lost River Mountains Interagency Recreation Area)* described on Map A.

II. BACKGROUND

OHV use on both National Forest lands and lands administered by the BLM continues to dramatically increase annually. Although much of this use is by responsible riders, unauthorized use is occurring. This un-authorized use is resulting in pioneered roads and trails, resource damage, disturbance to wildlife and conflicts with other public land users.

It is anticipated that OHV use will continue to increase, and with this increase, the incidence of un-authorized use and the corresponding adverse impacts will also increase.

III. STATEMENT OF WORK

Article A: All parties agree that:

1. To best manage OHV recreation and to protect natural resources within this designated area co-management with IDPR is advantageous.
2. The designated area for this co-management effort is displayed on Map A.

3. Rules, regulations and signing regarding OHV use will, so far as possible, be consistent, and each party will work toward the implementation of similar policies, practices or rules that regulate OHV activity within the designated area.
4. An annual meeting will be held regarding OHV management. This meeting will be held to discuss areas of concern, opportunities for better management and work planning efforts for the coming field season.

Article B: IDPR will:

1. Assist the F.S. and BLM with personnel and/or funding in the maintenance and operation of motorized trails within the designated area.
2. Assist the F.S. and BLM in the signing of travel management opportunities within the designated area.
3. Assist the F.S. and BLM in the enforcement of travel management regulations, through IDAPA authorities on those specific routes designated as a Recreation Trailway and will provide information to the federal agencies for follow up when appropriate.
4. Provide information and education materials to the public to solicit responsible and ethical OHV use.

Article C: BLM will:

1. Coordinate travel management decisions with the F.S. and the IDPR to ensure consistency and understanding from the public.
2. Ensure travel management signing is consistent with recommended standards.
3. To the extent that staff, resources and funding are available, provide staff for OHV compliance patrols.
4. Take the lead in the maintenance and operation of all motorized trails on BLM administered lands.
5. Take the lead in the maintenance of all information and regulatory signing regarding OHV management on BLM administered lands.
6. Provide information and education materials to the public to solicit responsible OHV use on public lands.

Article D: F.S. will:

1. Coordinate travel management decisions with the IDPR and the BLM to ensure consistency and understanding from the public.
2. Ensure travel management signing is consistent with recommended standards.
3. To the extent that staff, resources and funding are available, provide staff for OHV compliance patrols.
4. Take the lead in the maintenance and operation of all motorized trails on National Forest land.
5. Take the lead in the maintenance of all information and regulatory signing regarding OHV management on National Forest land.
6. Provide information and education materials to the public to solicit responsible OHV use on public lands.

IV. REQUIRED CLAUSES

1. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA): Any information furnished to any other party under this instrument is subject to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S. C. 552).
2. PARTICIPATION IN SIMILAR ACTIVITIES: This instrument in no way restricts the parties from participating in similar activities with other public or private agencies, organizations, and individuals.
3. ESTABLISHMENT OF RESPONSIBILITY. This MOU is not intended to, and does not create, any right, benefit, or trust responsibility, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or equity, by a party against the United States, its agencies, its officers, or any person.
4. RESPONSIBILITIES OF PARTIES. The parties and their respective agencies and office will handle their own activities and utilize their own resources, including the expenditure of their own funds, in pursuing these objectives. Each party will carry out its separate activities in a coordinated and mutually beneficial manner.
5. NON-FUND OBLIGATING DOCUMENT: Nothing in this MOU shall obligate any of the parties to obligate or transfer any funds. Specific work projects or activities that involve the transfer of funds, services, or property among the parties will require execution of separate agreements and be contingent upon the availability of appropriate funds. Such activities must be independently authorized by appropriate statutory authority. This MOU does not provide such authority. Negotiation, execution, and administration of each such agreement must comply with all applicable statutes and regulations.
6. SUFFICIENT APPROPRIATION: It is understood and agreed that the Department of Parks and Recreation (IDPR) is a governmental agency and this Agreement shall in no way be construed so as to bind or obligate the State of Idaho beyond the terms of any particular appropriation of funds by the State Legislature as may exist from time to time. The IDPR reserves the right to terminate this agreement if, in its sole judgment, the legislature of the State of Idaho fails, neglects or refuses

Article D: F.S. will:

1. Coordinate travel management decisions with the IDPR and the BLM to ensure consistency and understanding from the public.
2. Ensure travel management signing is consistent with recommended standards.
3. To the extent that staff, resources and funding are available, provide staff for OHV compliance patrols.
4. Take the lead in the maintenance and operation of all motorized trails on National Forest land.
5. Take the lead in the maintenance of all information and regulatory signing regarding OHV management on National Forest land.
6. Provide information and education materials to the public to solicit responsible OHV use on public lands.

IV. REQUIRED CLAUSES

1. FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT (FOIA): Any information furnished to any other party under this instrument is subject to the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S. C. 552).
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to appropriate sufficient funds as may be required for the IDPR to continue payments. Any such termination shall take effect on 30 days prior notice and be otherwise effective as provided in this Agreement.

7. COMMENCEMENT/EXPIRATION/TERMINATION. This MOU takes effect upon the signature of the parties and shall remain in effect for five years from the date of execution. This MOU may be extended or amended upon written request of any of the parties and the subsequent written concurrence of the others. Any party may terminate this MOU with a 60-day written notice to the others.
8. INDEMNIFICATION CLAUSE. The parties hereby agree to indemnify, defend and hold harmless each party to this agreement, its officer's, agents and employees from and against any liability, claims, action, damages, costs, expenses or losses, including reasonable attorney's fees and costs caused by or arising out of the performance, acts or omissions of a party, its officers, agents and employees; or arising from the failure of the same to comply with any applicable state, federal, local, law statute, rule, regulation, act or provision of this agreement. This duty to indemnify, defend and hold harmless shall encompass any claims which include or allege negligence on the part of one party, and this duty shall survive the termination or expiration of this MOU.

III. PRINCIPAL CONTACTS

The principal contacts for this MOU are:

Carol Eckert
District Ranger; Lost River R.D.
Salmon-Challis National Forest
P.O Box 507
Mackay, ID 83251
(208) 588-2224

Rene Snyder
Challis Field Office Manager
Upper Snake, Salmon, Clearwater District
801 Blue Mountain Road
Challis, Idaho 83226
(208) 879-6200

Ralph Rah
District Ranger; Challis R.D.
Salmon-Challis National Forest
H/C 63 Box 1669
Challis, Idaho 83226
(208) 879-4100

Carol McCoy-Brown
Idaho Falls Field Office Manager
Upper Snake River District
1405 Hollipark Dr.
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83401
(208) 524-7555

Dave Claycomb
Outdoor Recreation Program Specialist
Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation
P.O. Box 1876
Idaho Falls, Idaho 83403
(208) 525-7121

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, this agreement is executed as of the last date written below.

George Matejko; Forest Supervisor
Salmon – Challis National Forest

Date

Fritz Rennebaum; District Manager
Upper Columbia, Salmon, Clearwater District

Date

Jim May; District Manager
Upper Snake River District

Date

Rick Collignon; Director
Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation

Date